

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 1293

EXDIS

DEPT PASS COMICEDEFOR, CINCLANT AND SECDEF

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION NEGOTIATIONS - DRAFT EXCHANGE OF NOTES

REF: STATE 201414

1. THIS IS THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF TELEGRAMS ON WHICH
URGENT ANSWERS FROM DEPT REQUESTED.

2. FONMIN OBJECTS TO ANY REFERENCE IN DRAFT EXCHANGE OF
NOTES TO "CONTINUING THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF ICELAND
AND OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COMMUNITY." HE SAYS NO ONE IN
ICELAND REALLY BELIEVES THE THREAT IS THE SAME AS IN 1951
OR THAT THERE IS A THREAT AT ALL. HE CLAIMS INCLUSION
THESE WORDS WOULD START DEBATE IN ALTHING THAT COULD NEVER
END. I THINK HE HAS A GOOD POINT HERE. HANS ANDERSEN
SUGGESTS ELIMINATING THE START OF PARA TWO OF THE EXCHANGE
OF NOTES ON ASSUMPTION "LET SLEEPING DOGS LIE," I.E. WHY
REMIND ICELANDERS OF THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH ICELAND
JOINED NATO. SUBJECT TO DEPT'S APPROVAL ANDERSEN AND I
RE-DRAFTED EXCHANGE OF NOTES, TO READ IN ITS ENTIRETY AS
FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE:

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EXCELLENCY:

I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE DISCUSSIONS RECENTLY CONCLUDED BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ICELAND PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VII OF THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES SIGNED AT REYKJAVIK, MAY 5, 1951.

OUR GOVERNMENTS AGREE THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION IN WORLD AFFAIRS CALLS FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE FACILITIES AND THEIR UTILIZATION BY THE ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE UNDER THE AGREEMENT ON MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TERMS.

ACCORDINGLY, OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING THE CONTINUATION OF THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT, AND HAVE CONCLUDED THEIR REVIEW OF THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT UNDER ARTICLE VII.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO PROPOSE THAT THIS NOTE AND YOUR EXCELLENCY'S REPLY IN SIMILAR TERMS SHALL BE REGARDED AS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO THE ABOVE EFFECT.

ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END QUOTE.

3. I NEED DEPT'S RESPONSE BY 10AM WASHINGTON TIME THURSDAY, SEP 19 WHEN I MEET WITH FONMIN.
IRVING

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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NNN

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